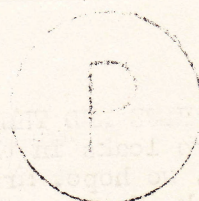




THE PALMYRA CIRCLE



No.5

March 26, 1949.

The navy flight was delayed one day on its departure from Honolulu on the Palmyra, Canton, Samoa run. Jerome Bloomer, was the only landing passenger. He has been up to the big city to see a D.D., who did a major overhaul on his tooth. He also did some purchasing for some of the localites. (If you cannot find the last word in your dictionary, dont blame me, it sounds good anyway.)

After refueling and a hand-crank job on No.1 engine, they departed for Samoa via Canton Island. Due to the plane having to make the Midway flight this week, they only had a three hour layover in Samoa.

On the trip down they only carried 21 pounds of Air Mail for Palmyra, and at Samoa they picked up 91 pounds of Parcels Post and Second Class Mail in two sacks, that had been miss-sent over a month ago. There is still a lot of mail being held up someplace.

We have not heard if Station Manager, Bob Hall, has been able to get anything done about a Post Office for Palmyra, while he has been in Honolulu. We need a Post Office, in more ways than one.

Our Honolulu clipping service sent us the following clipping from the Honolulu Star Bulletin.

PALMYRA FISHING SURVEY PROVES FRUITLESS.
SAN PEDRO, Calif., March 5 (AP)- The tuna clipper Calistar returned today from an uneventful two and one half month expedition to Palmyra island.

G.H.Clark, vice president of the Terminal Island Seafood Co., which financed the expedition, said: "I guess we'll have to chalk this up to experience. The only fish caught, 50 tons of yellow fin tuna, were taken en route to the islands. Our plans for development of fisheries there now are uncertain."

Word reaches us that the navy has agreed to supply us with movie film each week, subject to approval in Washington D.C.

Station Manager Bob Hall, has been working on this for some time and was able to take it up directly with the proper people.

If this is approved, film will probably be dropped off here each week by one Samoa bound plane and then picked up the next week by the following plane.

This will make life on Palmyra, brighter for the families and especially for the children.

LATE NEWS FLASH- HAWAII ORCHIDS, banned in new order from the Dept. of Agriculture, following discovery of the fruit fly in the petals of some of the flowers recently sent to the mainland.

Island orchid growers, are in hopes that the new process being developed for treatment of the flowers will be successful and that the ban can be lifted.

Part Two

A PALMYRA FISH STORY.

by, Lowrin A. Thurston.

Published in the Honolulu Advertiser, August 13th., 1922.

"The ulua were constantly patrolling the narrow channels between the islands in search of prey. Young Ted Dranga, who was our prize fisherman, conceived the brilliant labor saving device, that instead of enduring the fatigue of sitting in the heat, holding a line, he would string a rope across the three hundred foot channel which separated the island on which we were camped from the next island, on which rope he would tie several lines attached to baited hooks which would dangle in the channel. No sooner conceived than executed - the rope was suspended across the channel and three baited lines suspended from it, trailing in the water beneath.

Three sharks bagged. Three successive commotions under the line indicated the successful working of the scheme; but the aftermath was disappointing for in each case the catch proved to be a shark - a "baby shark" to be sure not over four foot long, but still involving a struggle to get him ashore and rescuing the hook from his yawning mouth and snapping teeth, for even a four foot baby shark can put up a vigorous fight, and, as we later discovered, his baby teeth were not made for looks alone.

I was cleaning shells near our end of the suspended rope when I was aroused by an explosion of explosives from Ted Dranga, who, as he rushed by me like a streak, bellowed "theres another of those blankety-blank sharks after my bait again". The youth was attired only in a "malo" or breech cloth, and running full tilt across the beach, plunged into the water and sprinted hand over hand to drive off the shark and rescue his bait.

It was a matter of only moments until his vigorous strokes brought him to where a violent commotion in the water was churning it into foam and fountain like spurts.

HERE AND THERE.

No more leaks in the roof over the hanger office, we hope. Mrs. Bloomer out walking the duck. No more cash and carry at the main commissary for a while. Place your order in advance and get free delivery. Has the mail closed is a familiar question Wednesday evenings. The ladies Sewing circle members heading for Mrs. Kimberlings. McEwen is sick in bed. The children in swimming near the apartments and a pretty life guard keeping watch over them. Otto heading for Steve Barnes with a package under his arm. The Co-Op records finally arrived. Wanted one set of four dog shoes. Must be Guaranteed against coral. Thanks to Manuel, the hotel lobby was dark Sunday evening, so that everyone could enjoy some late movies. The people who supplied the projector and screen we say HULLO. Pete the mynah bird says that the boat scheduled for the 28th has been cancelled also the NC65 is due here April 4th. Hoffman is supposed to be out of the hospital the 25th and is expected to be on the NC 65.

Last Sunday the two Snyder boys Charlie and Gregory held a party for all the children at Moonflower place. Ice cream and other goodies were served. A grand time was had by all.

Reports from the ladies sewing circle are that the meeting held last Thursday at Mrs. Kimberling's was one of the most successful they have had so far. Almost everyone of the women were there. Due to the heavy rain the editor did not send Pete, the mynah bird to cover the party. Several of the new women were introduced and quite a number of subjects were taken up and discussed including this papers inability to spell a certain young man's name correctly. It is LYNN instead of Linn.

If one of the ladies will please write up the next meeting, it will give us a lot of pleasure using it as this is your paper.

Part No.2

FARMERS OF THE BLUE PACIFIC

From the Sunday Polynesian of January 2, 1949

Beaumont discovered that occasionally there appeared in papaya orchards a small pear-shaped variety called "solo", highly praised for its flavor. Studying the solo, he noticed what most growers had not - that it was neither "he" nor "she" but a perfect combination of both. No one knew or could tell him how it got that way. But the person who could find out and produce a field containing nothing but the unique solos would take the gamble out of the papaya game.

Beaumont and an agricultural student, young, tennis-playing Bill Storey, set to

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work to unscramble the papaya sexes. Storey made every possible combination of crosses, including even male with male and solo with solo. He left nothing to chance. As he hand-pollinated each ivory flower, he gently covered it with a parchment bag. Tightly tied, it protected the experimental plant from foreign pollen carried by un-cooperative insects or blown about by non-scientific trade winds. A complete cycle of pollination took eighteen months. Then Storey had to plant again, meticulously dusting each individual waxy blossoms, checking and re-checking his results. He worked steadily for four years until he had the facts which made Hawaiian Agricultural history.

In the farmers open fields, seeds of the peculiar solo had produced male and female papayas as well as a union of the two. But under Storey's carefully controlled conditions, shielded from all stray pollen, the amazing solo proved to be self-pollinating and self-reproducing. It produced no males whatever. One third of the fruit turned out to be the round variety, but fortunately it had the identical rich flavor of the piquant solo.

To be continued.

Quarterly Statement of Circulation and Ownership, of the Palmyra Circle.

The Palmyra Circle is published each Saturday without cost to the Government or the residents of Palmyra Island. The equipment and supplies are the personal property of the Editor and Publisher, O.H. Hornung Jr.

Approximately 60 copies are delivered to the residents each week and an additional 20 copies are sent out to the other islands and to the Honolulu office.

The Palmyra Circle is put out for the information of the residents, to bring them bits of news, facts, a little gossip, and if you laugh when you see something in this paper, all the work that has gone into printing has been worthwhile.

The installation crew has been busy and it looks like the communicators will be moving into the new control station soon. Frank Haller, will probably be one of the happiest men when this happens. We understand that the range will be controlled by very high frequency radio, then he will not have to trace down breaks in the range telephone line.

Jerome has been busy changing some of the lights on the runway. The ends of the runway will be green with amber lights on each side. No more red lights are to be used except on obstructions.